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International Court of Justice

H3468 - 0002

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF COUNSEL FOR WAR CRIMES

EVIDENCE DIVISION

Date: 2 August 1948

I certify that Document Number 3954-PS was introduced into evidence as Exhibit Number USA-844 in the Trial by the International Tribunal of Hermann GOERING, et al, which commenced on 20 November 1945, and that the attached photostat is a true and correct copy of the original.

Fred Niebergall

FRED NIEBERGALL
Chief, Document Control Branch

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the annexed document 3954-PS No. USA - 844 is a photostat of an original document submitted in evidence by the United States Prosecution under this number. The original document has been withdrawn in accordance with Rule 10 of the International Military Tribunal, and to the best of my knowledge and belief is to be held at the National Archives, Washington D.C. .

Nuremberg, 4 July 1948

Paul Jossen

PAUL A. JOSSTEN

General Secretary
International Military
Tribunal

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3954-PS

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
NURNBERG, GERMANY
USA Exhibit 877
Filed 28 May 1946

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) SS
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

FRANZ B WOLF, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says:

I was born in Stuttgart, Germany on June 15, 1900 and I am presently employed as an editor by the Research Institute of America, Inc., 292 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N.Y. I have been employed in that capacity for over three years, having immigrated to this country from Germany on March 5, 1936. From July 1925 until January 1936 I was financial editor of the Frankfurter Zeitung in Frankfurt on the Main, Germany.

When the Nazi Party assumed control of the German government, I considered this development as the first indication that it would be necessary for me to leave the paper and probably the country. When the Nazi Party enacted the Editors Law of 1933, I was convinced that I would be unable to continue permanently. I was, however, allowed to continue my service to the paper temporarily on the basis of a transition clause contained in the Editors Law.

Under this Law, all members of the working press in Germany had to register and could continue in their work only if the registration was approved by the Reich Ministry of Propaganda. As a matter of principle, Jews and those who had been affiliated with certain political organizations opposed to the Nazi Party were precluded from receiving such approval. Provision was made, however, for temporary approval in certain cases. This provision was primarily meant to apply to cases requiring further clarification in regard to the applicant's ancestry or political affiliation. The provision, however, was also used in a number of other cases where the eventual denial of permanent approval was a foregone conclusion. The majority of these cases concerned Jewish editors on the staff of the Frankfurter Zeitung, particularly on the staff of its financial and business section.

I was willing to take advantage of this temporary approval -- as were a number of my colleagues -- for two reasons: first, it gave us an opportunity to inform the readers of the paper inside and outside of Germany about some of the characteristics of the Nazi regime a trifle more frankly than

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the remainder of the German press would; second, it gave us an opportunity to train new staff members who might take over at the time of our eventual departure and might attempt to preserve the paper in such a fashion that its democratic tradition could be revived after the Nazi terror had passed. It is possible that the officials who granted the temporary approval suspected our motives but it is certain that, if they did, their decision was made in spite of this for entirely different reasons.

Within the German press the Frankfurter Zeitung played a unique role in several respects. Its democratic character, its intellectual standards and its moral integrity were highly regarded by many members of the professional and business classes in Germany and abroad. In addition, the financial and business reporting and analysis were of such caliber that the paper was considered indispensible to those in Germany and abroad who were dependent on sound information about developments in German business and finance. If the Jewish editors who were on the staff in 1933 had been eliminated without a transition period of at least two years, the paper could not have continued its customary service and might have been forced to discontinue publication altogether.

The publisher, together with some of the senior editors and some friends of the paper, brought this situation to the attention of the Ministry of Propaganda and were supported in their request for consideration by the Ministry of Economics and the Foreign Office. In these representations, the service of the paper's financial and business sections to the German business community was heavily stressed. This was facilitated by the unusually high regard which virtually all influential businessmen, as well as all members of the press, had for the senior financial editor of the Frankfurter Zeitung, Albert Oeser, who played an important part in presenting the paper's case. It is reasonable to assume that this same high regard was shared by Walther Funk, who at that time was under-secretary of the Ministry of Propaganda in charge of the press and, therefore, had an important voice in making these decisions.

There is every reason to believe, however, that the consideration shown by the Nazi government to the Frankfurter Zeitung (by temporary approval of

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Jewish editors as well in other respects) was primarily due to the fact that seemingly undisturbed continuation of this paper served the purposes of the Nazi government. If the newspaper went out of business, this act would be very conspicuous. It would harm the interests of German industry at a time when the party was trying to curry its favor. It would emphasize the complete control of the German press, a fact of which large segments of the German population were still oblivious or only vaguely aware. Most importantly it would attract foreign attention to the complete Nazi control over Germany. The paper's continuation, on the other hand, would tend to deceive many people -- inside and outside of Germany -- who considered its daily appearance as a proof that there was still some leeway for independent thought. It was continued, therefore, seemingly as a proof that Nazi control could not be as much of a threat as it was said to be. Thus, continued publication of the paper by a staff that was able to continue in its traditional style and character as much as the government would permit, was in the interests of the party so long as its success in Germany depended upon deceiving the German professional and business men as well as foreign business leaders and government officials about the true nature of the Nazi regime.

All the observations I was able to make while still in Germany convinced me that deceit of important segments of the domestic and foreign public was the true purpose of the Nazi government when it maintained temporary approval of my registration as an editor until the end of 1935.

I have absolutely no reason to believe that this temporary approval -- or that of any other Jewish editors -- was motivated by any sympathy for the paper's own purposes, much less by any consideration for the editors concerned.

Franz B. Wolf

/s/ Franz B. Wolf

Subscribed and sworn to before me

on 29 day of April, 1946.

Elizabeth Coughlin

(Notary Public)

ELIZABETH COUGHLIN
NOTARY PUBLIC, New York County
Clerk's No. 220, Register's No. 577-C-8
Commission Expires March 30, 1948

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Dr. 3954-Ps

USA 877

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) SS
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

FRANZ B WOLF, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says:

I was born in Stuttgart, Germany on June 15, 1900 and I am presently employed as an editor by the Research Institute of America, Inc., 292 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N.Y. I have been employed in that capacity for over three years, having immigrated to this country from Germany on March 5, 1936. From July 1925 until January 1936 I was financial editor of the Frankfurter Zeitung in Frankfurt on the Main, Germany.

When the Nazi Party assumed control of the German government, I considered this development as the first indication that it would be necessary for me to leave the paper and probably the country. When the Nazi Party enacted the Editors Law of 1933, I was convinced that I would be unable to continue permanently. I was, however, allowed to continue my service to the paper temporarily on the basis of a transition clause contained in the Editors Law.

Under this Law, all members of the working press in Germany had to register and could continue in their work only if the registration was approved by the Reich Ministry of Propaganda. As a matter of principle, Jews and those who had been affiliated with certain political organizations opposed to the Nazi Party were precluded from receiving such approval. Provision was made, however, for temporary approval in certain cases. This provision was primarily meant to apply to cases requiring further clarification in regard to the applicant's ancestry or political affiliation. The provision, however, was also used in a number of other cases where the eventual denial of permanent approval was a foregone conclusion. The majority of these cases concerned Jewish editors on the staff of the Frankfurter Zeitung, particularly on the staff of its financial and business section.

I was willing to take advantage of this temporary approval -- as were a number of my colleagues -- for two reasons: first, it gave us an opportunity to inform the readers of the paper inside and outside of Germany about some of the characteristics of the Nazi regime a trifle more frankly than

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the remainder of the German press would; second, it gave us an opportunity to train new staff members who might take over at the time of our eventual departure and might attempt to preserve the paper in such a fashion that its democratic tradition could be revived after the Nazi terror had passed. It is possible that the officials who granted the temporary approval suspected our motives but it is certain that, if they did, their decision was made in spite of this for entirely different reasons.

Within the German press the Frankfurter Zeitung played a unique role in several respects. Its democratic character, its intellectual standards and its moral integrity were highly regarded by many members of the professional and business classes in Germany and abroad. In addition, the financial and business reporting and analysis were of such caliber that the paper was considered indispensible to those in Germany and abroad who were dependent on sound information about developments in German business and finance. If the Jewish editors who were on the staff in 1933 had been eliminated without a transition period of at least two years, the paper could not have continued its customary service and might have been forced to discontinue publication altogether.

The publisher, together with some of the senior editors and some friends of the paper, brought this situation to the attention of the Ministry of Propaganda and were supported in their request for consideration by the Ministry of Economics and the Foreign Office. In these representations, the service of the paper's financial and business sections to the German business community was heavily stressed. This was facilitated by the unusually high regard which virtually all influential businessmen, as well as all members of the press, had for the senior financial editor of the Frankfurter Zeitung, Albert Oeser, who played an important part in presenting the paper's case. It is reasonable to assume that this same high regard was shared by Walther Funk, who at that time was under-secretary of the Ministry of Propaganda in charge of the press and, therefore, had an important voice in making these decisions.

There is every reason to believe, however, that the consideration shown by the Nazi government to the Frankfurter Zeitung (by temprary approval of

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Jewish editors as well in other respects) was primarily due to the fact that seemingly undisturbed continuation of this paper served the purposes of the Nazi government. If the newspaper went out of business, this act would be very conspicuous. It would harm the interests of German industry at a time when the party was trying to curry its favor. It would emphasize the complete control of the German press, a fact of which large segments of the German population were still oblivious or only vaguely aware. Most importantly it would attract foreign attention to the complete Nazi control over Germany. The paper's continuation, on the other hand, would tend to deceive many people -- inside and outside of Germany -- who considered its daily appearance as a proof that there was still some leeway for independent thought. It was continued, therefore, seemingly as proof that Nazi control could not be as much of a threat as it was said to be. Thus, continued publication of the paper by a staff that was able to continue in its traditional style and character as much as the government would permit, was in the interests of the party so long as its success in Germany depended upon deceiving the German professional and business men as well as foreign business leaders and government officials about the true nature of the Nazi regime.

All the observations I was able to make while still in Germany convinced me that deceit of important segments of the domestic and foreign public was the true purpose of the Nazi government when it maintained temporary approval of my registration as an editor until the end of 1935.

I have absolutely no reason to believe that this temporary approval -- or that of any other Jewish editors -- was motivated by any sympathy for the paper's own purposes, much less by any consideration for the editors concerned.

/s/ Frank B. Wolf

Subscribed and sworn to before me
on 29 day of April 1946.

Elizabeth Coughlin
(Notary Public)

ELIZABETH COUGHLIN
NOTARY PUBLIC, New York County
Clerk's No. 220, Register's No. 577-C-8
Commission Expires March 30, 1948

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USA 877 (3954-PS)

Filed 28 May 1946
William G. Leitzer,
1st Lt. 3A Gen Secy

EXHIBIT-USA

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6 Pages